

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 1927

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., in the American Museum of Natural History; President Frank E. Lutz in the chair with nineteen members, and five visitors present.

The treasurer presented his annual report, audited by Mr. Bell, viz:

Balance January 1, 1926	\$1,167.84	
Receipts from dues	313.50	
Receipts from income	56.33	
Receipts from sales and subscriptions	845.42	
		\$2,383.09
Paid for lantern	\$ 37.75	
Paid for sundry expenses	10.18	
Paid for Journal	1,265.40	1,313.33
Balance January 1, 1927		1,069.76
Plus Permanent Fund, present value		973.92

Total membership 1 Honorary, 5 Life, 118 Regular = 124.

Total Subscribers 107 Members, 47 Individual, 96 Institutions = 250.

The treasurer's report was accepted with thanks.

The librarian reported accessions.

The program committee reported W. W. Bowen as speaker at the next meeting.

The nominating committee submitted nominations for officers in 1927: There being no other nominations an affirmative ballot was cast by the secretary, thereby electing President, Henry Bird; Vice-president, A. H. Sturtevant; Secretary, Charles W. Leng; Treasurer, Wm. T. Davis; Librarian, Frank E. Watson; Curator, A. J. Mutchler; Executive Committee, H. G. Barber, E. Shoemaker, Herbert F. Schwarz, H. Notman, G. C. Hine; Publication Committee, Harry B. Weiss, F. E. Lutz, John D. Sherman, C. E. Olsen; Delegate to New York Academy of Sciences, Wm. T. Davis.

Dr. Lutz, as retiring president, thanked the members for their support during his incumbency, and surrendered the chair to Mr. Bird.

Mr. Bird after recalling the number of years he had been a member and expressing his appreciation of Dr. Lutz' service, spoke of the recent meeting in Philadelphia and the many inquiries made there about Mr. Davis whose popularity with the ladies was manifest.

On motion of Mr. Mutchler the purchase of an extra bulb for the lantern was approved.

Mr. Davis presented a photograph and autobiographical sketch of Professor Francis Fillion, now 76 years old.

Mr. Barber showed the first number of a new Japanese Entomological Journal.

Mr. Leng showed the first number of Biological Abstracts.

Mr. Angell suggested establishing the new office of Historian but it was thought that such duties could be performed by the curator with help from Mr. Wunder.

Mr. Notman spoke on "Collecting at Devil's Lake, N. D., and Great Salt Lake, Utah," illustrating his remarks with a great collection of the little beetles he had found on the shores of these saline lakes, all most carefully mounted and labeled. These collections were made in 1923 as part of an automobile journey to Oregon and return. Devil's Lake, at an elevation of 1,469 feet is about 60 miles long and 15 miles wide in places, with a wide beach, quite stony a little way from the water; or with woods of which the undergrowth is dense. Great Salt Lake is at an elevation of 4,210 feet and the beach is, where Mr. Notman collected, covered with dry vegetable matter like wood pulp which may be pulled up in sheets. Tiger beetles peculiar to these salt lakes were shown from both localities but the greatest attention was paid to the small Carabidæ which abounded, especially *Bembidion* of which enormous series were shown. Mr. Notman commented upon the variety of habits exhibited by the different species of this large genus and the late Col. Casey's theory that it was geologically a young and growing genus. He was complimented by the president at the close of his remarks.

Mr. Nicolay under the title, "Boreal Coleoptera at Greenwood Lake" gave a résumé of his summer's collecting at Greenwood Lake, Orangeburg, Point Pleasant, and Washington. The most interesting feature was the finding in the pines on the summit of the hills on the western side of the lake opposite Sterling Forest of several buprestids, *sulcicollis* a dark form of *salisburyensis*, and *striata*. Mr. Nicolay expressed his obligations to Mr. Schott for pointing out the spot.

Mr. Shoemaker said the Elateridæ found there were quite as remarkable as the Buprestidæ.

Mr. Angell exhibited young mantids hatched in the house from egg masses collected at Point Pleasant.

Dr. Leonard exhibited galley proofs of the New York State List of Insects saying that its publication in May was hoped for. It would be called Cornell Memoir 99 and contain about 1,000 pages.

Mr. Ragot exhibited a duplex killing jar he had devised by which the carbona in one jar reached the insect in the other through a wire mesh.

The President appointed the following committees: Program, Messrs. Mutchler, Weiss and Sturtevant; Field, Messrs. Nicolay and Shoemaker; Auditing, Messrs. Bell, Lawler, and Janvrin.

MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 1927

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., in the American Museum of Natural History; President Henry Bird in the chair with twenty-four members, and nine visitors present.

The program committee reported Messrs. Huntingdon and Shoemaker as speakers for the next meeting.

Dr. Lutz exhibited catalogue of the Woodruff Library, appraised by Mr. Sherman, from which members are entitled to purchase at 50 per cent. discount.

On motion Dr. Lutz was requested to continue to act for the Society.

Mr. R. J. Sim, Japanese Beetle Laboratory, Riverton, N. J., and Mr. C. Thoroman, Houston House, 109 Houston St., N. Y., were elected members of the Society.

Mr. W. W. Bowen spoke on "Problems of an Entomologist in the Sudan," with illustrations by lantern slides. The insects discussed were *Heliothrips indicus*, *Schistocera gregaria*, of which *S. flaviventris* was said to be a sedentary phase, and three species of bollworm. The damage to the cotton crop and the control measures recommended were features of Mr. Bowen's remarks and illustrations, which disclosed the progress made by the introduction of scientific methods.

Mr. Davis read the following memo showing the introduction of silkworm eggs in 1657.

May 26, 1657. Letter. Directors to Stuyvesant from Amsterdam mentions mulberry trees.

December 22, 1657. Letter. Directors to Stuyvesant from Amsterdam mentions "silk worm seed sent to New Netherland."

Dutch manuscripts pp. 283-284.

Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N. Y. E. B. O'Callaghan, 1865.

He exhibited a "Treatise on the Rearing of Silkworms" translated from the German of Mr. de Hazzi, of Munich, published April 21, 1828, by order of Congress.

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 1927

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., February 1, 1927, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Henry Bird in the chair, with nineteen members and three visitors present.

Dr. Lutz read correspondence with the representative of the Woodruff estate, and reported what arrangements had been made with respect to the disposal of the Woodruff library.

The program committee reported Messrs. Jones and Hartzell as speakers for the meeting of February 15.

On motion, the resignation of D. M. Cammann was accepted.

Mr. Davis read a letter from Mr. Leng, reporting his safe arrival in Porto Rico.

Mr. E. L. Huntingdon spoke on "A Trip to Southeastern Wyoming." The speaker collected at Diamond Ranch, near Chugwater, Wyoming, in July and August. The type of country visited was illustrated by photographs. Notes were presented on various groups of insects, more particularly on Lycaenidae. Lists of species taken were passed around, showing 53 Coleoptera and 40 Lepidoptera. Specimens of Odonata and Orthoptera (partly identified by Mr. Davis) were also exhibited.

The paper was discussed by Messrs. Barber, Notman, Davis and Shoemaker.

Mr. Ernest Shoemaker spoke on "Some Lepidoptera and Coleoptera taken at Canadensis, Pa., during the past season." Collecting was done during July and September. Twenty species of butterflies (excluding skippers) were taken; numerous notes were presented on these and various moths. About 150 species of beetles were taken. Of these *Dialytes ulkei* and *Necydalis mellita* were specially noteworthy. Many of the specimens taken were exhibited at the meeting.

The paper was discussed by Messrs. Bird and Davis.

Mr. Ballou, present as a visitor, spoke of collecting experiences in Cuba, more especially concerning a trip to the high mountains in the eastern part of the islands. His account included remarks on stingless bees, beetles and tabanid flies, as well as a description of the country. A very large proportion of the species collected were previously unknown.

These remarks were discussed by Messrs. Davis, Sherman and Mutchler, the latter corroborating Mr. Ballou's report on the high frequency of new species in his material.

Mr. Ragot recorded a few 1927 captures (Coleoptera, Aptera), with some remarks on winter collecting in cities.

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 15, 1927

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., February 15, 1927, at the American Museum of Natural History, President Henry Bird in the chair, with twenty-two members and six visitors present.

Dr. Lutz reported the receipt of a check for \$10,000 from the estate of L. B. Woodruff. To facilitate the receipting for this amount, the following resolution was read, and, on motion, was adopted. "Resolved (1) that Frank E. Lutz be and hereby is authorized to sign for the New York Entomological Society any and all papers required in Matter of the Judicial Settlement of the Account of Proceedings of James P. Woodruff as Executor of the last Will and Testament of Lewis B. Woodruff, deceased; and (2) that, in the absence of Charles W. Leng, Secretary, A. H. Sturtevant be and hereby is appointed Secretary *pro tempore*."

On motion by Dr. Lutz, it was also voted that the provisions of the Woodruff will concerning this amount be entered in the minutes of the Society. These provisions are as follows: "I give and bequeath to the New York Entomological Society (Inc.) the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)

to be added to its "Permanent Fund." While intending in no way to impose upon said Society any conditions with respect to this gift, or any binding restrictions respecting the use of the income derived therefrom, I would suggest that this legacy be invested in some conservative income producing property or securities, and that its income be devoted primarily to the publication of technically illustrated monographs within the field of the Society's present authorized activities, such income to be allowed to accumulate, if necessary, to that end; and that a memorandum of this suggestion, if it meets with the Society's approval, be filed with the permanent records of its treasurer."

It was further voted that the final investment of this money be made subject to action by the executive committee of the Society.

The program committee reported Messrs. Engelhardt and Johnson as speakers for the next meeting.

Mr. Engelhardt called the attention of the members of the Society to the revival of the publication "Entomologica Americana" by the Brooklyn Entomological Society.

Mr. Frank M. Jones read a paper on "The Mating of the Psychidae, a Photographic Record." The speaker reviewed the literature on the mating and reproduction of the psychid moths. Certain European members of the group reproduce by parthenogenesis, but this must be rare if it occurs at all with our local species. The common *Thyridopterix ephemeraeformis* has been much studied, but the method of mating was still uncertain. Using much material, and new methods (more especially instantaneous fixation of mated pairs by plunging them in boiling water), the speaker was able to show that mating occurs by means of great elongation of the male abdomen. The male genitalia are then brought into direct connection with the genital opening of the grub-like female, within the split pupa case of the female. These results were illustrated by photographs, lantern-slides and preserved specimens.

Dr. Albert Hartzell read a paper on "The Leaf-Hoppers of Economic Importance in our Local Fauna." Of the 175 species recorded from New York State, the speaker estimated that about 40 to 50 are abundant enough to be of economic importance. The damage done is of two kinds—that resulting directly from sucking plant juices, and that resulting from the fact that certain species serve as carriers for plant diseases. Two hoppers of the latter class were discussed in more detail: *Empoasca fabae* which carries the virus of "hopped-burn" of potatoes, and *Cicadula 6-guttata*, carrier for "aster yellows."

The paper was illustrated by photographs and specimens.

MEETING OF MARCH 1, 1927

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., on March 1, 1927, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Henry Bird in the chair, with twenty-six members and nine visitors present.

The treasurer reported the receipt on February 15, 1927, of the \$10,000 bequest from Lewis B. Woodruff, which was handed on February 16, 1927, to the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, who have charge of the Permanent Fund of the Society, and from whom the following Declaration was received, viz.:

The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company hereby declares that it has received an additional sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) which it holds and will hold as Trustee pursuant to the terms of a declaration of trust executed by it June 1, 1927, for the benefit of the New York Entomological Society and which sum shall be added to the Permanent Fund of said Society.

[Signed] THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY,
by J. G. Kilbreth,
Assistant Trust Officer

The treasurer delivered the original Declaration of June 1, 1927, to be deposited in the American Museum of Natural History, a copy thereof being printed in the JOURNAL for December, 1917, Vol. XXV, pp. 197-198, and called attention to the fact that its terms had been approved by a committee of which Mr. Woodruff was a member as shown by the minutes of May 15, 1917 (Vol. XXV, p. 240). He also delivered the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company's receipt for the check of \$10,000.

Mr. Hall, for the Executive Committee, reported the following resolution which was adopted: Whereas the American Museum of Natural History, through their officials, have aided materially with the legal processes involved in the settlement of the bequest of Lewis B. Woodruff, deceased, to the New York Entomological Society:

Be it resolved:

That the New York Entomological Society herewith express their appreciation of the cordial attitude of the Museum, and of the very material service rendered in this matter, and beg to tender herewith their recorded vote of thanks to the Museum.

[Signed] HENRY BIRD, HERBERT F. SCHWARZ,
GAYLORD C. HALL, HARRY G. BARBER.
HOWARD NOTMAN,

The resignation of Miss Irene Dobrosky was accepted with regret.

Mr. H. F. Schwarz spoke of the next issue of the Directory of the Scientific Alliance and, on motion by Mr. Sherman, the Society voted to bear its proportionate share of the expense of printing.

Mr. Mutchler announced that the books ordered by members from the Woodruff Library were ready for delivery.

Mr. Frank Johnson spoke of "Protective Mimicry of the Undersides of Butterflies' Wings." He exhibited four cases of *Morpho* and other tropical species, and showed how the coloration resembled the localities in which each would be found. From his own experiences in collecting he was able to do this in great detail and show how the color of the underside was always protective.

Mr. Engelhardt spoke of "The Romance of Life-History Hunting in the Clear-wing Moths (Aegeriidæ)." After reference to the work of Mr. and Mrs. Beutenmuller, Joutel, and others he told how he had devoted himself for years to the study of the life history. Two boxes were exhibited as illustration of the work done by the larvae. About forty life histories had been traced, showing that some species bore in solid wood, others in branches, stems, roots, etc., the whole affording interesting experiences and adding materially to our knowledge of the group, which occurs across the continent, from Mexico to Alaska and sea level to the mountain tops.

In the discussion following his remarks, in which Messrs, Schwarz, Lemmer and Sherman took part, the latter, in lighter vein, told how an auctioneer had once offered Mr. Beutenmuller's monograph as a treatise on Seaside Moths.

MEETING OF MARCH 15, 1927

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., March 15, 1927, in the American Museum of Natural History; President Henry Bird in the chair with thirty-four members, and twenty-seven visitors present.

The regular order of business was by unanimous consent suspended and Dr. Leland O. Howard, Chief U. S. Bureau of Entomology, was elected an honorary member of the Society by a rising vote.

The program committee reported Dr. Phillip Garman and C. W. Leng as speakers for the next meeting.

Dr. Sturtevant delivered an address "Observations on Slave-making Ants." He said in part: There are four slave-making forms of ants in the immediate neighborhood of New York City—*Formica sanguinea*, subsp. *rubicunda*, *F. sanguinea*, subsp. *subintegra*, *Polyergus lucidus*, and *Harpagoxenus americanus*. Specimens of these four forms, collected at Morristown, N. J., in the summer of 1926, were exhibited together with the usual slave species and some species occasionally found as slaves. The raids of *F. subintegra* and of *P. lucidus* were described, and attention was called to some of the problems not yet satisfactorily solved in connection with these raids.

Harpagoxenus americanus is a rare ant, whose habits were previously very imperfectly known. A report was given of experiments on colony-founding, the full account of which is to be published in a forthcoming issue of "Psyche."

Dr. Howard, under the title, "Some Observations on Entomology and Entomologists," spoke first of the International Entomological Congress to be held in Ithaca in August, 1928, and of the Washington Entomological Society whose greetings he brought to us. He then spoke of the appropriation necessarily made to counteract the ravages liable to be perpetrated by the European corn-borer, contrasting the helpless condition of this creature for seven months of the year with the superior wealth and intelligence of the human race, but pointing out that each female corn-borer being capable of

laying 700 eggs, our intelligence will not overcome her instinct unless used. He passed then to a number of instances of phoresy recently brought to light, cases in which the instinct of the parent secured a free ride on the appropriate host for the purpose of depositing eggs. Apart from the interest as a series of scientific observations there had been an important corollary in connection with spotted fever ticks.

Prompted by Dr. Lutz, Dr. Howard gave a résumé of the principal problems confronting his department, the cotton boll-weevil, the corn-borer, the Japanese beetle and gypsy moth, with 150 other projects also in progress. The drama of the cotton boll-weevil included ruined planters, the suicide of bankers, the exodus of starving Negroes, with the department struggling to induce the burning of dead stalks of the cotton plant and the planting of early maturing cotton. After describing the damage done by the four principal pests and the remedies he advised he closed with an account of arsenical dusting by aeroplanes at night at a cost of about \$5.00 per acre.

Dr. Howard's address was followed with close attention and discussed by Messrs. Bird, Bagot, Engelhardt, Angell, Olsen and others.

Mr. Engelhardt called attention to the approaching 55th anniversary of the Brooklyn Entomological Society and the resumed publication of *Entomologica Americana* as well as the *Bulletin*.